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1 JOHN C. CRUDEN 2009 FEB 25 AM 11: 49 Acting Assistant Attorney General 2 Environment & Natural Resources Division CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DIST. G. CALW. LOS ANGRES United States Department of Justice 3 ELISE S. FELDMAN 4 **Environmental Enforcement Section** Environmental Enforcement Section Environment & Natural Resources Division United States Department of Justice 301 Howard Street, Suite 1050 San Francisco, California 94105 Telephone: (415) 744-6470 Telecopier: (415) 744-6476 5 6 7 8 9 Attorneys for Plaintiff United States of America 10 11 Additional Counsel Listed on Next Page 12 13 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 14 WESTERN DIVISION 15 CV09-1331 AHM UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF 16 TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL 17 CIVIL ACTION NO. Plaintiffs, 18 19 CONSENT DECREE 20 VALLEY- PROCTOR LLC 21 Defendant. 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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I. BACKGROUND

- A. The United States of America ("United States"), on behalf of the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), and the State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control ("DTSC"), have filed a complaint in this matter pursuant to Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. § 9607, seeking reimbursement of response costs incurred for response actions taken at or in connection with the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at the Puente Valley Operable Unit ("PVOU") of the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Site, Area 4, Los Angeles County, California (the "Site").
- B. This Consent Decree provides for the reimbursement of a portion of the United States' Past Response Costs and a portion of the DTSC's Past Response Costs at this Site by Valley-Proctor LLC (f/k/a Valley Proctor Partnership) ("Settling Defendant").
- C. By entering into this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant does not admit liability to or arising out of the transactions or occurrences alleged in the Complaint or to any other person related to the Site.
- D. The United States, DTSC, and Settling Defendant agree, and this Court by entering this Consent Decree finds, that this Consent Decree has been negotiated by the Parties in good faith, that settlement of this matter will avoid prolonged and complicated litigation between the Parties, and that this Consent Decree is fair, reasonable, and in the public interest.

THEREFORE, with the consent of the Parties to this Decree, it is ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

II. JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action

pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6973, 9606, 9607, and 9613(b), and also has personal jurisdiction over Settling Defendant in this action. Settling Defendant consents to and shall not challenge entry of this Consent Decree or this Court's jurisdiction to enter and enforce this Consent Decree.

III. PARTIES BOUND

2. This Consent Decree is binding upon the United States, DTSC, and upon Settling Defendant. Any change in ownership or corporate or other legal status, including but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter the status or responsibilities of Settling Defendant under this Consent Decree.

IV. DEFINITIONS

- 3. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Consent Decree which are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or in such regulations. Whenever the terms listed below are used in this Consent Decree, the following definitions shall apply:
- a. "Basin-wide Response Costs" shall mean costs, including but not limited to direct and indirect costs, including accrued Interest, that the United States has paid for basin-wide (non-operable unit) response actions in connection with the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Sites, Areas 1- 4.
- b. "Carrier Consent Decree" shall mean the consent decree entered on April 28, 2006 in the matter of <u>United States v. Carrier Corporation</u>, Civ. Action No. 05-6022 ABC (FMOx)(C.D. Cal.), relevant portions of which are attached hereto as Appendix A.
- c. "CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9601, et seq.

- d. "Consent Decree" shall mean this Consent Decree and Appendix A attached hereto.
- e. "Day" shall mean a calendar day. In computing any period of time under this Consent Decree, where the last day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.
- f. "DOJ" shall mean the United States Department of Justice and any successor departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the United States.
- g. "DTSC" shall mean the State of California Department of Toxic Substances Control and any successor departments or agencies.
- h. "Effective Date" shall mean the date of entry of this Consent Decree.
- i. "EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any successor departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the United States EPA.
- j. "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund" shall mean the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 9507.
- k. "ESD" shall mean the Explanation of Significant Differences issued by EPA on June 14, 2005 for the Record of Decision.
- 1. "Extended Required Sale Date" shall mean a date approved by EPA pursuant to Paragraph 5.c. by which Settling Defendant must effectuate a Transfer of the Property, once a written request has been made by Settling Defendant for an extension of the Required Sale Date.
 - m. "Facility" shall mean the Site.
- n. "Fair Market Value," except in the event of a transfer by foreclosure, shall mean the price at which the Property or any portion thereof

would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller under actual market conditions, neither being under any compulsion to buy or to sell and both having reasonable knowledge of relevant facts. In the event of a transfer by foreclosure, "Fair Market Value" shall mean the amount obtained at the foreclosure sale.

- o. "Future DTSC Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including but not limited to Oversight Costs, direct and indirect costs, and Basin-wide Response Costs allocated to the Site, including Interest, that DTSC pays or incurs at or relating to the Site after the date of entry of this Consent Decree, but prior to the later of (i) the date 8 years from the Operational and Functional Date of the Carrier Consent Decree, or (ii) the date of issuance of a final Record of Decision for the Site.
- p. "Future Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including but not limited to Oversight Costs, direct and indirect costs, and Basin-wide Response Costs allocated to the Site, including Interest, that the United States or any third party pays or incurs at or relating to the Site after the date of entry of this Consent Decree, but prior to the later of (i) the date 8 years from the Operational and Functional Date of the Carrier Consent Decree, or (ii) the date of issuance of a final Record of Decision for the Site.
- q. "Interest" shall mean interest at the applicable rate specified for interest on investments of the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded annually on October 1 of each year, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a).
- r. "Net Sales Proceeds," shall mean the total value of all consideration received by Settling Defendant for all Transfers of the Property, combined, less (i) closing costs (including appraisal costs and real estate commissions incurred by a California-licensed real estate broker other than

Settling Defendant), limited to those reasonably and necessarily incurred, as determined by EPA, and actually paid by Settling Defendant associated with the Transfer of the Property or any portion thereof, and (ii) federal and state taxes owed on the proceeds.

- s. "Oversight Costs" shall mean all direct and indirect costs, including Interest, that the United States or the DTSC incurs in connection with monitoring and supervising performance of the Response Work by other persons.
- t. "Paragraph" shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by an Arabic numeral or an upper or lower case letter.
- q. "Parties" shall mean the United States, DTSC, and the Settling Defendant.
- r. "Past DTSC Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including but not limited to Oversight Costs, direct and indirect costs, and Basin-wide Response Costs allocated to the Site, including Interest, that DTSC has paid or incurred at or relating to the Site through and including the date of entry of this Consent Decree.
- s. "Past Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including but not limited to Oversight Costs, direct and indirect costs, and Basin-wide Response Costs allocated to the Site, including Interest, that the United States or any third party has paid or incurred at or relating to the Site through and including the date of entry of this Consent Decree.
 - t. "Plaintiffs" shall mean the United States and DTSC.
- u. "Property" shall mean 334 El Encanto Road, City of Industry, California 91745 (a/k/a 15430 Proctor Avenue, City of Industry, California 91745) identified by Assessor's Parcel No. 8208 027 014 07 000.
- v. "Record of Decision" or "ROD" shall mean the September 30, 1998 EPA Interim Record of Decision for the Puente Valley Operable Unit (Area

- 4) of the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Sites, Areas 1-4.
- w. "Required Sale Date" shall mean the date one year after the Effective Date.
- x. "Response Work" shall mean the design and implementation of any remedial measures, including the operation and maintenance thereof, encompassed within the Record of Decision as modified by the ESD.
- y. "Section" shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by a Roman numeral.
- z. "Settling Defendant" shall mean Valley-Proctor LLC (f/k/a Valley Proctor Partnership).
- aa. "Site" shall mean the facility, which consists of an area of groundwater contamination in Los Angeles County, California, located in the geographic area designated on the National Priorities List as the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Site, Area 4 [see 49 Fed. Reg. 19480 (1984)], and identified as the Puente Valley Operable Unit.
- bb. "Transfer" shall mean the sale of the Property by Settling Defendant (or its successors or heirs), or foreclosure by the United States.
- cc. "United States" shall mean the United States of America, including its departments, agencies and instrumentalities.

V. REIMBURSEMENT OF RESPONSE COSTS

- 4. Payment to EPA and DTSC.
- a. <u>Payment to DTSC</u>. Settling Defendant shall, within thirty (30) working Days after entry of this Consent Decree, remit the principal of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in reimbursement of Past Response Costs to DTSC. Payment to DTSC shall be made by certified check or cashier's check, made payable to "Cashier of the Department of Toxic Substances Control," Department of Toxic Substances Control, State of California, Accounting Office, 1001 I Street,

Sacramento, California, 95812. Settling Defendant shall send a transmittal letter with the check, referencing the San Gabriel Superfund Sites, Area 4 (Puente Valley Operable Unit), Project Code No. 300346. Settling Defendant also shall send notice, including a copy of the check and transmittal letter, to DTSC as provided in Section XIV (Notices and Submissions).

b. Payments to EPA.

Settling Defendant shall pay the United States \$550,000 plus Interest as set forth below. If the Net Sales Proceeds are sufficient, Settling Defendant shall make such payment within five business days of the Transfer. If the Net Sales Proceeds are less than \$550,000, Settling Defendant shall pay as follows:

1. within five business days of the Transfer, all of the Net Sales Proceeds to the United States; and 2. within twenty business days of the Transfer, Settling Defendant shall pay any shortfall to the United States so that the total payment to the United States is \$550,000 plus Interest. Interest will begin to accrue sixty (60) days from the Effective Date and run through the date of payment in full.

c. Payment to the United States shall be made by FedWire Electronic Funds Transfer ("EFT") to the U.S. Department of Justice in accordance with current EFT procedures, referencing the USAO File Number, EPA Region IX, the Site/Spill ID Number 09-8V, and DOJ Case Number 90-11-2-09232. Payment shall be made in accordance with instructions provided to the Settling Defendant by the Financial Litigation Unit of the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California following lodging of the Consent Decree. Any payments received by the Department of Justice after 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time shall be credited on the next business Day. Settling Defendant shall send notice to the EPA and the DOJ that payment has been made in accordance with Section XIV (Notices and Submissions) and to David Wood, PMD-6, Section Chief, U.S. EPA, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California,

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d. The five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000), plus Interest, paid by Settling Defendant to the United States shall be deposited in the "San Gabriel Valley Superfund Sites, Area 4, Special Account" within the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund. This Special Account shall be retained and used to conduct or finance response actions at or in connection with the Site or the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Sites (Areas 1- 4), or may be transferred by the EPA from this Special Account to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

5. Sale of Property.

- a. Settling Defendant agrees that it will not sell, assign, convey, encumber, or exchange the Property, or any portion thereof, except by means of a Transfer.
- b. Settling Defendant shall sell the Property by effecting a Transfer of all portions of the Property by the Required Sale Date at a price sufficient to ensure that the United States will receive \$550,000, plus Interest (as described in paragraph 4(b)) from the Net Sales Proceeds. If the sales price is not sufficient to ensure that the United States will receive the full \$550,000, plus Interest (as described in paragraph 4(b)) from the Net Sale Proceeds, then Settling Defendant shall sell the Property at Fair Market Value and Settling Defendant shall provide EPA with documentation sufficient to show the total value of all consideration received by Settling Defendant for each Transfer at the time of each Transfer, the amount of the proceeds of the Transfer, and the amounts corresponding to closing costs and federal and state taxes. This documentation shall include, but not be limited to, the report of an Appraisal (to be paid for by Settling Defendant but deductible as part of the closing costs as set forth above). The documentation shall also include, either as part of the report or separately, (1) a tax statement showing the assessed valuation of the Property or any portion

thereof for each of the three years immediately preceding the Transfer and (2) a schedule showing all outstanding indebtedness on the Property or any portion thereof.

- c. The Settling Defendant may make a request to EPA for an extension of time for the Required Sale Date to take effect. Any such request shall be made in writing to EPA's Project Coordinator at least 30 days prior to the Required Sale Date. If EPA agrees to the extension of time, it shall notify Settling Defendant in writing of the Extended Required Sale Date. EPA's decision on the extension of time shall not be subject to the dispute resolution procedures of this Consent Decree or to judicial review.
- d. If Settling Defendant fails to sell the Property by the Required Sale Date, or by any Extended Required Sale Date, EPA may take appropriate action to perfect a lien on the Property pursuant to Section 107(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(1). Settling Defendant hereby agrees not to object to the imposition of a CERCLA 107(1) lien on the Property if the Property is not sold by the Required Sale Date, or by any Extended Required Sale Date.
- e. Once EPA has perfected its lien pursuant to Section 107(1), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(1), EPA may initiate action to foreclose on its lien. EPA shall provide notice of its decision to take action to foreclose on its liens at least 60 days before it takes such action. Settling Defendant shall not oppose such foreclosure action, and shall reimburse EPA its costs of foreclosure, including attorneys' fees, in addition to any amounts due pursuant to this Consent Decree. Such payments shall be considered reimbursement of response costs and shall be made in the manner described in Paragraph 4.c. If EPA forecloses on its liens, the United States shall be entitled to the first \$550,000 of the Net Sales Proceeds, plus Interest (as described in paragraph 4(b)) through the date of payment. Settling Defendant shall be entitled to the remainder of the Net Sales Proceeds.

VI. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS

6. <u>Interest on Late Payments</u>. In the event that any payment required under Section V (Reimbursement of Response Costs) or Section VI, Paragraph 7 (Stipulated Penalties) is not received when due, Interest shall continue to accrue on the unpaid balance through the date of payment. Settling Defendant shall be liable for any such Interest pertaining to the payments required under Section V (Reimbursement of Response Costs).

7. Stipulated Penalties.

a. Settling Defendant shall be liable for stipulated penalties for late payments under Section V (Reimbursement of Response Costs) and for the Interest on late payments for Section V, as required under Section VI. The stipulated penalties shall be in the following amounts per violation per Day that any such payment is late:

Penalty Per Violation Per Day	Period of Noncompliance
\$500	1st through 14th Day
\$1500	15th through 30th Day
\$2500	31st Day and beyond

Each of the payments required under Section V (Reimbursement of Response Costs) shall be considered a separate violation for purposes of calculating stipulated penalties under this provision.

- b. Settling Defendant shall be liable for stipulated penalties in the amount of \$1500 per Day per violation of the provisions contained in Sections VII (Notice to Successors-in-Title), XII (Access To Information), and XIII (Retention of Records).
- 8. All Interest and penalties set forth under this Section shall begin to accrue on the Day a violation occurs, and shall continue to accrue through the final Day of the correction of the noncompliance. Nothing herein shall prevent the

simultaneous accrual of separate penalties for separate violations of this Consent Decree.

- 9. Interest and stipulated penalties shall accrue as provided in Paragraphs 6 and 7, regardless of whether EPA or DTSC has notified Settling Defendant of the violation or made a demand for payment, but need be paid only upon demand.
- 10. Interest and stipulated penalties set forth under this Section shall be due and payable within 30 Days of the date of demand for payment. All payments to the United States under this Paragraph shall be made by certified or cashier's check made payable to the "EPA Hazardous Substances Superfund," shall be forwarded to:

US Environmental Protection Agency Superfund Payments Cincinnati Finance Center PO Box 979076 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000,

shall indicate that payment is for Interest and/or stipulated penalties, and shall reference EPA Region IX, the Site/Spill Identification Numbers 09-8V, the USAO File Number, the DOJ Case Number 90-11-2-09232, and the name and address of the party making payment. Copies of check(s) paid pursuant to this Paragraph, and any accompanying transmittal letter(s), shall be forwarded to the DOJ and the EPA as provided in Section XIV (Notices and Submissions), and to David Wood, PMD-6, Section Chief, U.S. EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California, 94105. Payment to DTSC under this Paragraph shall be made by certified check or cashier's check, made payable to "Cashier of the Department of Toxic Substances Control," and shall be forwarded to the Department of Toxic Substances Control, State of California, Accounting Office, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California, 95812. Settling Defendant shall send a transmittal letter with the check, referencing the San Gabriel Superfund Sites, Area 4 (Puente

Valley Operable Unit), Project Code No. 300346. Settling Defendant also shall send notice, including a copy of the check and transmittal letter, to DTSC as provided in Section XIV (Notices and Submissions).

- 11. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the United States and/or DTSC may, in its unreviewable discretion, waive any portion of Interest or stipulated penalties that have accrued pursuant to this Consent Decree.
- 12. Payments made under Paragraphs 4 through 10 shall be in addition to any other remedies or sanctions available to Plaintiffs by virtue of Settling Defendant's failure to comply with the requirements of this Consent Decree.
- 13. In addition to the Interest and Stipulated Penalty payments required by this Section and any other remedies or sanctions available to the United States by virtue of Settling Defendant's failure to comply with the requirements of this Consent Decree, if the United States and/or DTSC brings an action against Settling Defendant to enforce this Consent Decree, and the claims made by the United States and/or DTSC are not arbitrary and capricious, Settling Defendant shall reimburse the United States and/or DTSC for all costs of such action, including but not limited to costs of attorney time.

VII. NOTICE TO SUCCESSORS-IN-TITLE

- 14. Within fifteen (15) Days after the entry of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant shall record a notice of the entry of this Consent Decree with the Recorder's Office, Los Angeles County, State of California. Thereafter, each deed, title, or other instrument conveying an interest in the Property included in the Site shall contain a notice stating that the Property is subject to this Consent Decree and shall reference the recorded location of the Consent Decree.
- a. The obligations of Settling Defendant with respect to the provisions of this Paragraph and Section XI (Site Access) shall be binding upon any and all persons who subsequently acquire any such interest or portion thereof

(hereinafter "Successors-in-Title"). Within fifteen (15) Days after entry of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant shall record at the Recorder's Office a notice of obligation to provide access under Section XI (Site Access). Each subsequent instrument conveying an interest to any such Property included in the Site shall reference the recorded location of such notice.

b. Settling Defendant and any Successor-in-Title shall, at least thirty (30) Days prior to the conveyance of any such interest, give written notice of this Consent Decree to the grantee and written notice to EPA of the proposed conveyance, including the name and address of the grantee, and the date on which notice of the Consent Decree was given to the grantee. In the event of any such conveyance, Settling Defendant's obligations under this Consent Decree, including its obligation to provide or secure access pursuant to Section XI (Site Access), to the extent that such Settling Defendant has access rights to the Property, shall continue and shall also be met by the Successor-in-Title. In no event shall the conveyance of an interest in the Property release or otherwise affect the liability of Settling Defendant to comply with this Consent Decree.

VIII. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY PLAINTIFFS

15. Covenant Not to Sue. Except as specifically provided in Paragraph 16 (Reservation of Rights), Plaintiffs covenant not to sue or to take any administrative action against Settling Defendant for performance of Response Work, Past Response Costs, Future Response Costs, Past DTSC Response Costs, and Future DTSC Response Costs ("Matters Addressed"), pursuant to Section 7003 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6973, or Sections 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606 and 9607(a). This covenant shall take effect upon receipt by Plaintiffs of the payments set forth in Paragraphs 4 and 5. This covenant is conditioned upon Settling Defendant's satisfactory performance of its obligations under this Consent Decree. This covenant extends only to Settling Defendant and -16-

does not extend to any other person.

- 16. Reservation of Rights. The covenant not to sue set forth in Paragraph 15 does not pertain to any matters other than the Matters Addressed. The Plaintiffs reserve, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, all rights against Settling Defendant with respect to other matters, including but not limited to:
- a. liability for failure by Settling Defendant to meet a requirement of this Consent Decree;
- b. liability for damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources, and for the costs of any natural resource damage assessments;
 - c. criminal liability; and
- d. liability for response actions and response costs incurred or to be incurred by the United States and/or DTSC not covered as Matters Addressed as set forth in Paragraph 15 of this Consent Decree, including but not limited to liability for any response actions and response costs at the Site that occur after the later of (i) the date 8 years from the Operational and Functional Date of the Carrier Consent Decree, or (ii) the date of issuance of a final Record of Decision for the Site.

IX. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY SETTLING DEFENDANT

- 17. Settling Defendant covenants not to sue and agrees not to assert any claims or causes of action against Plaintiffs or their contractors or employees with respect to the Matters Addressed, as set forth in this Consent Decree, including but not limited to:
- a. any direct or indirect claims for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund based on Sections 106(b)(2), 107, 111, 112, or 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b)(2), 9607, 9611, 9612, or 9613, or any other provision of law;

- b. any claims arising out of costs or response actions at or in connection with the Site, including any claim under the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1491, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, as amended, or at common law; and
- c. any claims against the United States pursuant to Sections 107 and 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607 and 9613, related to the Site.
- 18. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to constitute approval or preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. § 300.700(d).

X. EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT/CONTRIBUTION PROTECTION

- 19. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to create any rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any person not a Party to this Consent Decree. Each of the Parties expressly reserves any and all rights (including, but not limited to, any right to contribution), defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action which each Party may have with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating in any way to the Site against any person not a Party hereto.
- 20. The Parties agree that in consideration of the payment made by Settling Defendant and the execution of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant has resolved its liability to Plaintiffs and is entitled to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by Section 113(f)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2), for Matters Addressed in this Consent Decree, conditioned only upon entry of this Consent Decree. The Matters Addressed in this Consent Decree are listed in Paragraph 15 above. The Matters Addressed exclude those response actions and response costs to which Plaintiffs have reserved their rights under this Consent Decree.
- 21. Settling Defendant agrees that, with respect to any suit or claim for contribution brought by Settling Defendant for matters related to this Consent

Decree, Settling Defendant will notify DOJ, EPA, and DTSC in writing not later than sixty (60) Days prior to the initiation of such suit or claim. Settling Defendant also agrees that, with respect to any suit or claim for contribution brought against Settling Defendant for matters related to this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant will notify DOJ, EPA, and DTSC in writing within ten (10) Days of service of the complaint or claims upon Settling Defendant. In addition, Settling Defendant shall notify DOJ, EPA, and DTSC within ten (10) Days of service or receipt of any motion for summary judgment or any order from a court setting a case for trial, for matters related to this Consent Decree.

22. In any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding initiated by the United States or DTSC for injunctive relief, recovery of response costs, or other relief relating to the Site, Settling Defendant shall not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claims based upon the principles of waiver, res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim-splitting, or other defenses based upon any contention that the claims raised by the United States or DTSC in the subsequent proceeding were or should have been brought in the instant case; provided, however, that nothing in this Paragraph affects the enforceability of the Covenant Not to Sue by Plaintiffs set forth in Section VIII.

XI. SITE ACCESS

23. Commencing upon the date of lodging of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant agrees to provide the United States and DTSC and their representatives, including the EPA, the DTSC, and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, and their contractors, access at all reasonable times to the Property within the Site owned or controlled by Settling Defendant to which access is determined by the EPA or DTSC to be required for the implementation of this Consent Decree, or for the purpose of conducting any response activity related to the Site, including but not limited to:

- a. Monitoring of investigation, removal, remedial or other activities at the Site;
- b. Verifying any data or information submitted to the United States or to DTSC;
- c. Conducting investigations relating to contamination at or near the Site;
 - d. Obtaining samples;
- e. Assessing the need for, planning, or implementing response actions at or near the Site; and
- f. Inspecting and copying records, operating logs, contracts, or other documents maintained or generated by Settling Defendant or its agents, consistent with Section XII (Access to Information).
- 24. Notwithstanding any provision of this Consent Decree, the United States and DTSC retain all of their access authorities and rights, including enforcement authorities related thereto, under CERCLA, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. § 6927, and any other applicable statutes or regulations.

XII. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- 25. Settling Defendant shall provide to Plaintiffs, upon request, copies of all documents and information within its possession or control or that of its contractors or agents relating in any manner to response actions taken at the Site or the liability of any person for response actions conducted and to be conducted at the Site, including, but not limited to, sampling, analysis, chain of custody records, manifests, trucking logs, receipts, reports, sample traffic routing, correspondence, or other documents or information related to the Site.
 - 26. Confidential Business Information and Privileged Documents.
 - a. Settling Defendant may assert business confidentiality claims

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covering part or all of the documents or information submitted to Plaintiffs under this Consent Decree to the extent permitted by and in accordance with Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(7), and 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). Documents or information determined to be confidential by Plaintiffs will be accorded the protection specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies documents or information when they are submitted to the Plaintiffs, or if Plaintiffs have notified Settling Defendant that the documents or information are not confidential under the standards of Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA, the public may be given access to such documents or information without further notice to Settling Defendant.

- Settling Defendant may assert that certain documents, records or other information are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege recognized by federal law. If Settling Defendant asserts such a privilege in lieu of providing documents, they shall provide Plaintiffs with the following: 1) the title of the document, record, or information; 2) the date of the document, record, or information; 3) the name and title of the author of the document, record, or information; 4) the name and title of each addressee and recipient; 5) a description of the subject of the document, record or information; and 6) the privilege asserted. However, no documents, reports, or other information created or generated pursuant to the requirements of this or any other consent decree with Plaintiffs shall be withheld on the grounds that they are privileged. If a claim of privilege applies only to a portion of a document, the document shall be provided to Plaintiffs in redacted form to mask the privileged information only. Settling Defendant shall retain all records and documents that it claims to be privileged until Plaintiffs have had a reasonable opportunity to dispute the privilege claim and any such dispute has been resolved in the Settling Defendant's favor.
 - 27. No claim of confidentiality shall be made with respect to any data,

including but not limited to, all sampling, analytical, monitoring, hydrogeologic, scientific, chemical, or engineering data, or any other documents or information evidencing conditions at or around the Site.

XIII. RETENTION OF RECORDS

- 28. Until ten (10) years after the entry of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant shall preserve and retain all records and documents now in its possession or control, or which come into its possession or control thereafter, that relate in any manner to response actions taken at the Site or the liability of any person for response actions conducted and to be conducted at the Site, regardless of any corporate retention policy to the contrary. After five (5) years, Settling Defendant may contact the EPA in writing to request instructions as to whether such records and documents shall be maintained for the remaining five (5) year retention period, or whether such records and documents may be discarded. No retained records or documents shall be disposed of prior to the ten (10) year retention period, unless Settling Defendant receives instructions from the EPA specifically permitting Settling Defendant to dispose of such records and documents.
- 29. After the conclusion of the ten (10) year document retention period in the preceding Paragraph, Settling Defendant shall notify the EPA and the DOJ at least ninety (90) Days prior to the destruction of any such records or documents, and, upon request by the EPA or the DOJ, Settling Defendant shall deliver any such records or documents to EPA subject to the same privilege provisions set forth in Section XII (Access To Information).
- 30. By signing this Consent Decree, Settling Defendant certifies that, after thorough inquiry, to the best of its knowledge and belief, Settling Defendant has not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of any records, documents, or other information relating to its potential liability regarding

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the Site, after notification of potential liability or the filing of a suit against Settling Defendant regarding the Site; and that Settling Defendant has fully complied with any and all EPA requests for information regarding the Site pursuant to Section 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), and Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927.

NOTICES AND SUBMISSIONS

31. Whenever, under the terms of this Consent Decree, notice is required to be given or a document is required to be forwarded by one party to another, it shall be directed to the individuals at the addresses specified below, unless those individuals or their successors give notice of a change to the other Parties in writing. Written notice as specified herein shall constitute complete satisfaction of any written notice requirement of the Consent Decree with respect to the United States (the DOJ and the EPA), DTSC, and Settling Defendant, respectively.

As to the United States:

As to DOJ:

Bruce S. Gelber Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section Environment and Natural Resources Division U.S. Department of Justice (DJ # 90-11-2-09232) P.O. Box 7611 Washington, D.C. 20044-7611

Trial Attorney Environmental Enforcement Section Environment and Natural Resources Division

U.S. Department of Justice 301 Howard Street, Suite 1050 San Francisco, CA 94105

As to EPA:

Elise S. Feldman

Dustin Minor (ORC-3) Acting Branch Chief Hazardous Waste Branch U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, California 94105

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As to DTSC:

Ann Rushton
Deputy Attorney General, Environment Section
California Department of Justice
300 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90013

Jacalyn Spiszman
Project Manager, Site Mitigation Branch
Department of Toxic Substances Control, Region 3
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630

As to Settling Defendant:

Paul D. Rasmussen Dongell Lawrence Finney LLP 707 Wilshire Boulevard, 27th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017-3609 Telephone: (213)-943-6100 Facsimile: (213)-943-6101 e-mail:

Attorney for Settling Defendant Valley-Proctor LLC

Settling Defendant may change the identity or contact information for its agent at any time by written notice to the Court and to the United States.

XV. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

32. This Court shall retain jurisdiction over this matter for the purpose of interpreting and enforcing the terms of this Consent Decree.

XVI. INTEGRATION/APPENDICES

33. This Consent Decree and its appendix constitute the final, complete and exclusive agreement and understanding among the Parties with respect to the settlement embodied in this Consent Decree. The Parties acknowledge that there are no representations, agreements or understandings relating to the settlement other than those expressly contained in this Consent Decree. The following appendix is attached to and incorporated into this Consent Decree: "Appendix A" is the relevant portions of the Carrier Consent Decree.

XVII. LODGING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

- 34. This Consent Decree shall be lodged with the Court for a period of not less than thirty (30) Days for public notice and comment. The United States reserves the right to withdraw or withhold its consent if the comments regarding the Consent Decree disclose facts or considerations which indicate that this Consent Decree is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. Settling Defendant consents to the entry of this Consent Decree without further notice.
- 35. If for any reason this Court should decline to approve this Consent Decree in the form presented, this agreement is voidable at the sole discretion of any party and the terms of the agreement may not be used as evidence in any litigation between the Parties.

XVIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

36. The Effective Date of this Consent Decree shall be the date upon which it is entered by the Court.

XIX. SIGNATORIES/SERVICE

- 37. Each undersigned representative of the Settling Defendant, the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the United States Department of Justice, and together for DTSC, the Deputy Attorney General and the Chief of Operations, Southern California Cleanup Operations Branch Cypress Office, certifies that he or she is authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree and to execute and bind legally such Party to this document.
- 38. Settling Defendant hereby agrees not to oppose entry of this Consent Decree by this Court or to challenge any provision of this Consent Decree, unless the United States has notified Settling Defendant in writing that it no longer supports entry of the Consent Decree.
 - 39. Settling Defendant shall identify, on the attached signature page, the

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name and address of an agent who is authorized to accept service of process by mail on behalf of that Party with respect to all matters arising under or relating to this Consent Decree. If no agent is specified, the attorney for Settling Defendant listed at the beginning of this document shall be deemed to be the agent authorized to accept service at the address listed. Settling Defendant hereby agrees to accept service in that manner and to waive the formal service requirements set forth in Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and any applicable local rules of this Court, including, but not limited to, service of a summons.

XX. FINAL JUDGMENT

40. Upon approval and entry of this Consent Decree by this Court, this Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment between and among the United States, DTSC, and Settling Defendant. The Court finds that there is no just reason for delay and therefore enters this judgment as the final judgment under Fed. R. Civ. P. 54 and 58.

SO ORDERED THIS DITT OF	
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	Name: United States District Judge

DAVOE

1	THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree, relating to
2	the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Site, Area 4, and further identified as the Puente
3	Valley Operable Unit.
4	FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
5	FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
6	
7	Date I.
8	Dated: Acting Assistant Altorney General
9	Acting Assistant Altorney General Environment & Natural Resources Division United States Department of Justice
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13	Dated: 2/20/09 ELISE S. FEEDMAN
14	Trial Attorney
15	Environmental Enforcement Section Environment & Natural Resources Division United States Department of Justice
16 17	United States Department of Justice 301 Howard Street, Suite 1050 San Francisco, CA 94105 Telephone: (415) 744-6470 Telecopier: (415) 744-6476
18	Telephone: (415) 744-6470 Telecopier: (415) 744-6476
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1	Dated: 9/29/08	KEITH TAKATA
2		Director
3		Superfund Division U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9
4		Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105
5	Dated: 9/13/08	
6		DUSTIN MINOR Acting Chief
7		Hazardous Waste Branch Office of Regional Counsel
8		Acting Chief Hazardous Waste Branch Office of Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street
9		San Francisco, CA 94105
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1	THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree, relating to
2	the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Site, Area 4, and further identified as the Puente
3	Valley Operable Unit.
4	
5	FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC
6	SUBSTANCES CONTROL
7	
8	Dated: 8/26/08
9	Unit Chief
10	Brownfields and Environmental Restoration Program - Cypress
11	Restoration Program - Cypress Department of Toxic Substances Control Cypress Office 5796 Corporate Avenue Cypress, California 90630
12	Cypress, California 90630
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16	Dated: Syst. 3, 2008
17	
18	Deputy Attorney General Environment Section California Department of Justice
19	California Department of Justice 300 South Spring Street Los Angeles, California 90013
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THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree, relating to the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Site, Area 4, and further identified as the Puente Valley Operable Unit.

FOR VALLEY-PROCTOR LLC (f/k/a Valley Proctor Partnership)

Dated: 8/2//08

Phillip A. Piet, President 5714 N. Rudd Tank Road Flagstaff, Arizona 86001 (928)527-0602

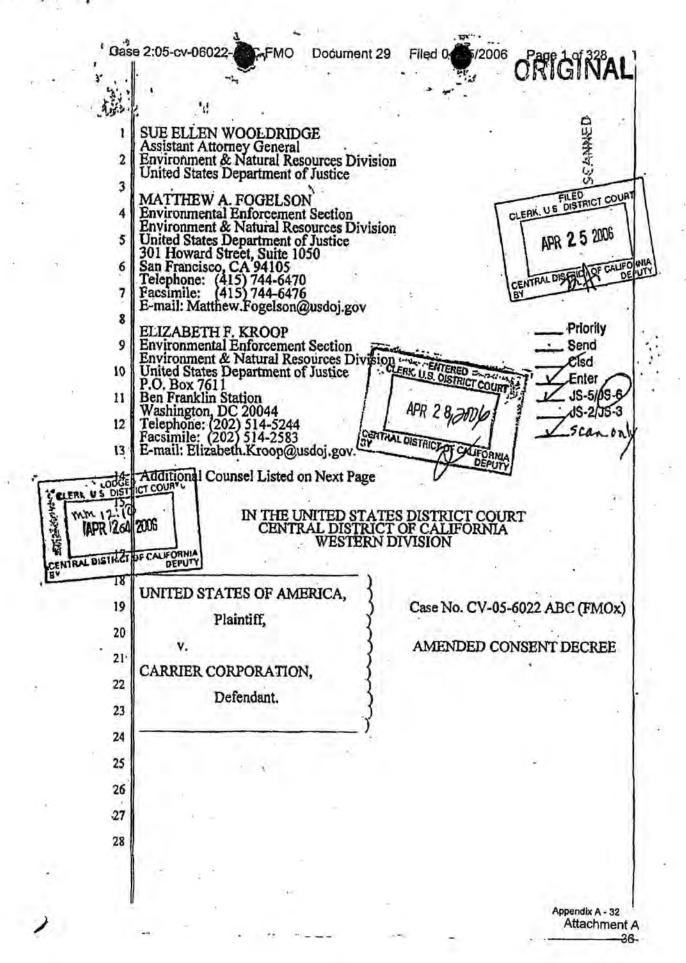
name and address of agent authorized to receive service of process pursuant to Paragraph 39:

Dongell Lawrence Finney LLP 707 Wilshire Boulevard, 45th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017-3609

Appendix A

Relevant Portions of the Carrier Consent Decree

-31-



III. PARTIES BOUND

- 2. This Consent Decree applies to and is binding upon the United States and upon Settling Defendants and their successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate status of a Settling Defendant including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter such Settling Defendant's responsibilities under this Consent Decree.
- ach contractor hired to perform the Work (as defined below) required by this Consent Decree and to each person representing any Settling Defendant with respect to the Site or the Work and shall condition all contracts entered into hereunder upon performance of the Work in conformity with the terms of this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants or their contractors shall provide written notice of the Consent Decree to all subcontractors hired to perform any portion of the Work required by this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants shall nonetheless be responsible for ensuring that their contractors and subcontractors perform the Work contemplated herein in accordance with this Consent Decree. With regard to the activities undertaken pursuant to this Consent Decree, each contractor and subcontractor shall be deemed to be in a contractual relationship with the Settling Defendants within the meaning of Section 107(b)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(b)(3).

IV. DEFINITIONS

4. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this
Consent Decree that are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under
CERCLA shall have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or in such
regulations. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Consent Decree or in the
appendices attached hereto and incorporated hereunder, the following definitions
shall apply:

"Basin-wide Response Costs" shall mean costs, including but not limited to

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direct and indirect costs, including accrued Interest, that the United States has $\frac{1}{25}$ incurred or in the future incurs for basin-wide (non-operable unit) response actions in connection with the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Sites, Areas 1 – 4.

"CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response,
Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601, et seq.
"Consent Decree" shall mean this Decree and all appendices attached hereto (listed in Section XXX). In the event of conflict between this Decree and any appendix, this Decree shall control.

"Day" shall mean a calendar day unless expressly stated to be a working day. "Working Day" shall mean a day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday. In computing any period of time under this Consent Decree, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.

"DOJ" shall mean the United States Department of Justice and any of its successor departments, agencies, or instrumentalities.

"DTSC" shall mean the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and any successor departments or agencies.

"Effective Date" shall be the effective date of this Consent Decree as provided in Paragraph 117.

"Eligible SEP Costs" shall include the costs of implementing the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) required pursuant to Section XVIII, but do not include Settling Defendants' overhead, administrative expenses or legal fees. Contractor oversight costs not exceeding 5% of \$468,750 may be included as Eligible SEP Costs, so long as adequate documentation is provided.

"EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any of its successor departments or agencies.

"Explanation of Significant Differences" or "ESD" shall mean the Explanation of Significant differences relating to the Site issued by EPA on June EMO

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27 28 14, 2005: The ESD is attached as Appendix B to this Consent Decree.

"Future Response Costs" shall mean all costs that are incurred by the United States or any third party for response actions with respect to the Site after the "Effective Date, but prior to the later of (i) the date 8 years from the Operational and Functional Date, or (ii) the date of issuance of a final Record of Decision for the Site. Future Response Costs include, but are not limited to, Basin-wide Response Costs allocated to the Site, direct and indirect costs and accrued interest that the United States incurs in reviewing or developing plans, reports, and other items pursuant to this Consent Decree, verifying the Work, or otherwise implementing, overseeing, or enforcing this Consent Decree, including but not limited to payroll costs, contractor costs, travel costs, laboratory costs, the costs incurred pursuant to Sections VII (Remedy Review), IX (Access and Institutional Controls; including but not limited to the cost of attorney time and any monies paid to secure access or to secure or implement institutional controls including but not limited to the amount of just compensation), XV (Emergency Response), and Paragraph 29 of Section XXII (Work Takeover).

"Interest," shall mean interest at the rate specified for interest on investments of the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded annually on October 1 of each year, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). The applicable rate of interest shall be the rate in effect at the time the interest accrues. The rate of interest is subject to change on October 1 of each year.

"Interim ROD" shall mean the Interim Record of Decision relating to the Puente Valley Operable Unit of the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Sites signed on September, 30 1998 by the Regional Administrator, EPA Region 9, or his/her delegate, and all attachments thereto. The Interim ROD is attached as Appendix A to this Consent Decree.

"Mid-Valley Monitoring" shall mean the installation and monitoring of

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wells in the intermediate and deep groundwater zones in the mid-valley area of the Site to monitor vertical and horizontal contaminant migration in such groundwater zones, as set forth in the SOW. For purposes of this Consent Decree, the midvalley shall extend from Azusa Avenue to Puente Creek.

"National Contingency Plan" or "NCP" shall mean the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, and codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, and any amendments thereto.

"Operational and Functional" shall mean that the Remedial Action, or a phase thereof, has been constructed and that it is performing in accordance with the applicable SOW and the applicable final Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plans and other plans approved by EPA.

"Operational and Functional Date" shall mean the date that all phases of the Remedial Action are Operational and Functional pursuant to Paragraph 50.

"Paragraph" shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by an Arabic numeral or an upper case letter.

"Parties" shall mean the United States and the Settling Defendants.

"Past Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including but not limited to Basin-wide Response Costs allocated to the Site, direct and indirect costs, including Interest, that the United States or any third party has paid or incurred at or in connection with the Site, through and including the Effective Date.

"Performance Criteria" shall mean the prevention of groundwater in the shallow zone north of Puente Creek at the mouth of Puente Valley with contamination greater than or equal to ten-times the levels listed in Table 2 of the ESD from:

> (1) migrating beyond its lateral extent as measured at the time the shallow zone Remedial Action containment system is Operational and Functional; and

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(2) migrating vertically into the intermediate zone;
for a period of 8 years from the Operational and Functional Date
"Plaintiff" chall mean the United States

"RCRA" shall mean the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 et seq. (also known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act).

"Remedial Action" shall mean those activities to be undertaken by Settling Defendants to implement the shallow zone remedy north of Puente Creek and Mid-Valley Monitoring, in accordance with the Interim ROD as modified by the ESD, the applicable SOW, and the applicable Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plans and other plans approved by EPA.

"Remedial Action Work Plan" shall mean the document developed pursuant to Paragraph 11 of this Consent Decree and approved by EPA, and any amendments thereto.

"Remedial Design" shall mean those activities to be undertaken by Settling Defendants to develop the final plans and specifications for the Remedial Action pursuant to the Remedial Design Work Plan.

"Remedial Design Work Plan" shall mean the document developed pursuant to Paragraph 10 of this Consent Decree and approved by EPA, and any amendments thereto.

"Section" shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by a Roman numeral.

"SEP" shall mean the Woodland Duck Farm Supplemental Environmental Project as described in Paragraph 62, or any alternative Supplemental Environmental Project approved by EPA pursuant to Paragraph 63.

"SEP Implementation Plan" shall the mean the document describing the SEP and setting forth those activities required to implement the SEP.

"Settling Defendants" shall mean Carrier Corporation and United Technologies Corporation.

"Site" shall mean the area of groundwater contamination in Los Angeles, County, California, located in the geographic area designated on the National Priorities List as the San Gabriel Valley Superfund Site, Area 4 [see 49 Fed. Reg. 19480 (1984)], and identified as the Puente Valley Operable Unit.

"State" shall mean the California Department of Toxic Substances Control ("DTSC").

"Statement of Work" or "SOW" shall mean the statement of work for implementation of the Remedial Design and Remedial Action at the Site, as set forth in Appendix D to this Consent Decree and any modifications made in accordance with this Consent Decree.

"Supervising Contractor" shall mean the principal contractor retained by the Settling Defendants to supervise and direct the implementation of the Work under this Consent Decree.

"Unilateral Administrative Order Docket No. 2001-20" or "UAO Docket No. 2001-20" shall mean the order issued by EPA to Carrier Corporation on or about September 13, 2001.

"United States" shall mean the United States of America.

"Waste Material" shall mean (1) any "hazardous substance" under Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14); (2) any pollutant or contaminant under Section 101(33) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33); (3) any "solid waste" under Section 1004(27) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(27); and (4) any "hazardous material" under the California Hazardous Waste Control Act Section 25100 et seq.

"Work" shall mean all activities Settling Defendants are required to perform under this Consent Decree, except those required by Section XXVI (Retention of Records) and Section XVIII (Supplemental Environmental Projects).

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5. Objectives of the Parties. The objectives of the Parties in entering into this Consent Decree are to protect public health or welfare or the environment at

Decree.

XIV. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION

50. "Operational and Functional"

a. Within 30 Days after Settling Defendants conclude that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional, Settling Defendants shall schedule and conduct a pre-certification inspection to be attended by Settling Defendants and EPA. If, after the pre-certification inspection, the Settling Defendants still believe that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional, they shall submit a written report requesting certification to EPA for approval, with a copy to the State, pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions) within 30 Days of the inspection. In the report, a registered professional engineer and the Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator shall state that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional. The written report shall include as-built drawings signed and stamped by a professional engineer. The report shall contain the following statement, signed by a responsible corporate official of a Settling Defendant or the Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator:

To the best of my knowledge, after thorough investigation, I certify that the information contained in or accompanying this submission is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

If, after completion of the pre-certification inspection and receipt and review of the written report, EPA, after reasonable opportunity to review and comment by DTSC, determines that the Remedial Action is not Operational and Functional, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of the activities that must be undertaken by Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree in order for the Remedial Action to be Operational and Functional. EPA will set forth in the notice a schedule for performance of such activities consistent with the Consent Decree and the SOW or require the Settling Defendants to submit a schedule to EPA for approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions).

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Settling Defendants shall perform all activities described in the notice in accordance with the specifications and schedules established pursuant to this Paragraph, subject to their right to invoke the dispute resolution procedures set? forth in Section XX (Dispute Resolution).

- b. If EPA concludes, based on the initial or any subsequent report requesting certification, and after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by DTSC, that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional, EPA will so certify in writing to Settling Defendants.
- If EPA fails to certify that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional within 90 Days after a request, EPA shall be deemed to have denied the request, unless Settling Defendants agree to an extension of time. Settling Defendants may, at any time thereafter, invoke Dispute Resolution pursuant to Section XX (Dispute Resolution).
- d. Nothing herein shall preclude Settling Defendants from requesting, and EPA from granting, pursuant to the same procedures set forth in Subparagraphs a-c of this Paragraph, certification that a phase of the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional; provided, however, that any such certification shall be conditioned on such phase remaining Operational and Functional at the time Settling Defendants request certification for the final phase of the Remedial Action. In the event Settling Defendants request certification that a phase of the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional, and such request is granted, the resulting certification shall not affect the Operational and Functional Date.
- Upon approval of the certification report by EPA or pursuant to a ruling by the Court, the Operational and Functional Date shall be the date when the last report requesting certification of the final phase of the Remedial Action was submitted.
 - f. The Operational and Functional Date established pursuant to

this Paragraph shall not be affected if existing contamination greater than or equal to ten-times the levels listed in Table 2 of the SOW has migrated vertically into the intermediate zone and this existing contamination prevents Settling Defendants from meeting the Performance Criteria, provided the Settling Defendants are taking the response actions determined by EPA to be necessary to reverse the trend pursuant to the SOW.

g. Once EPA has determined that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional pursuant to this Paragraph, the Operational and Functional Date shall not be affected in the event EPA subsequently determines, pursuant to Paragraph 13, that modification to the Work specified in the SOW or in work plans developed pursuant to the SOW is necessary to achieve and maintain the Performance Criteria, to meet discharge ARARs, or to implement Mid-Valley Monitoring.

51. Certification of Completion.

a. No later than 90 Days before, and no sooner than 120 Days prior to, the eight-year anniversary of the Operational and Functional Date, and upon Settling Defendants concluding that the Remedial Action is still Operational and Functional, Settling Defendants shall schedule a pre-certification inspection to be attended by Settling Defendants and EPA. The Settling Defendants shall submit a Facility Status Package to EPA which shall include, but not be limited to, all maintenance reports, performance reports, sampling results, and all other deliverables updated as appropriate to reflect the performance and condition of the containment and Mid-Valley Monitoring systems including all wells, pipelines, and treatment facilities. If, after the pre-certification inspection, the Settling Defendants still believe that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional, Settling Defendants shall submit a written report by a registered professional engineer, in accordance with the SOW, stating that the Remedial Action is Operational and Functional. The report shall contain the following statement,